

Subject:	Docket #1299 - Richard & Carol Turner/Special Exception & Variances for a Slaughterhouse
Created By:	brynmichael@aol.com
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From:	<brynmichael@aol.com>
Recipient	Action Date & Time Comment
To: Carrol Everett (EverettC@charlescounty.org)	

Luke Hannah, Chairman
Charles County Board of Appeals,
Charles County Government
La Plata, MD

February 18, 2013

Mr. Hannah & Members to the Board of Appeals for Charles County Maryland,

My name is Barbara Roberts and I reside at 7122 Leonardtown Road, Hughesville, MD 20637

I am writing to publicly announce my support for Richard & Carol Turner, regarding Special Exception #1299, request for a Special Exception for a Slaughterhouse, Rick's Place, located at 13800 Petzold Drive, Waldorf, MD.

I have done business with Rick's Place for many years. My children & grandchildren have been and are members of the Charles County 4-H (which Rick & Carol Turner are supporters of). They have raised livestock on our family farm & use the services of Rick's Place as well as my husband and myself. Rick & Carol's butcher shop is always clean & well kept. The grounds outside of the butchershop have always reflected the same. We have always been given great service and have always been 100% satisfied with the services they provide.

In reading the Special Exception Docket #1299 it states in the Staff Analysis that during the Planning Staff's site visit on December 21, 2012, the business appeared to be clean & confined & the staff did not observe evidence that the use would be detrimental to the use, peaceful enjoyment, economic value or development of surrounding properties or the general neighborhood. It further states that the applicant (Rick's Place) has yearly inspections with the USDA-FSIS to ensure they abide by their guidelines. I would hope you would take this information in great consideration.

I also found it interesting that the Charles County Commissioners meeting on Tuesday February 12, 2012 included a briefing & Power Point presented by the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission that expressed how SMADC have been instrumental in building the new Southern Maryland Meats brand, which enables consumers to find quality meat grown & harvested locally according to strict standards of raising, slaughtering, & packaging. Rick's Place is included as a member in their directory.

Unfortunately you have a few neighbors who oppose Rick & Carol Turners business (Rick's Place) due to road issues, or from what I gathered at the Board of Appeals meeting on Tuesday February 12, 2013 as personal issues. All the times I have traveled Petzold Drive I have never encountered anyone speeding (impossible with potholes) or any children playing anywhere. I feel very bad for the Turner's that a few neighbors are trying to use them as escape goats to try to get the county to take over the road rather than be responsible for the road/properties that they profited from.

In closing I ask as a local farmer & tax payer of Charles County for the board to please grant the Special

Exceptions & Variances of Docket #1299 & keep the small family owned business of Charles County in operation.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Barbara Roberts